(c) to (f) Market prices of bulk drugs are dependent on a variety of commercial factors. However, in whichever cases the difference in the market price and notified price is substantial for a considerable length if time, the necessary corrective measures are initiated.

High prices of Ranitidine

3038. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3036 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd December, 1993 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact tha. most of the producers of Ranitidine have supplied drugs at a price varying from Rs. 1400/ Kg. to Rs. 1800 per Kg. during the last three years, including the current year:

(b) why the formulation prices are continuing to be based on Rs. 4396 per Kg. and consumer is being made to pay more than double the price for the formulations;

(c) whether it is a fact that, systematically under the guise of price control, producers have been benefited at the cost of the consumers;

(d) who is responsible for such a state of affairs and what steps have been taken to fix the responsibility; and

(e) what are the other drugs where such a situation is continuing and why has the Ministry not acted in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e) As stated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3036 answered on 23-12-1993, BICP has initiated cost-cum-technical study of the Bulk drug Ranitidine after the expiry of period exempt from price control for the major producers of this bulk drug. The bulk drug price for the indigenous production will be notified in the near future. on the basis of report of BICP.

Sale of price control medicine at higher prices

3039. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of companies are either selling price control medicines at higher prices than the notified prices or prices fixed by Government;

(b) if so, what are the names of the companies and of the products which have come to notice of the Ministry;

(c) what is the fixed price or notified price and what price is being charged by each;

(d) whether it is a also a fact that a number of companies are also selling scheduled II products without price approval. if so, what are the names of such products and names of companies; and

(e) whether the Ministry has taken any action against any company under the Essential Commodities Act; if so. the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e) To the extent information is available. the prices fixed by the Government under the DPCO 1987 are by and large followed by the manufacturers. Whenever cases, where the concerned manufacturers have either not taken the price approval or not followed the price fixed by the Government come to the notice. necessary action is taken by the State Governments under the provisions of the DPCO 1987 issued under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Normative price fixation

3040. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether normative price fixation and enomalies in policies are giving rise